

Updates

October 2023

What's happening?!

Highlights:

- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- MCCA Wraps two buses
- MCCA and REDI
- Events and Community Engagement
- Upcoming Workshops
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Committee Positions

Upcoming Closings

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving

[Donate here.](#)

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and was officially declared so in 1989. Since then, advocates have taken time to both acknowledge its existence, across all income levels, all races, all genders, all ages, all nationalities, and be a voice for both the victims and survivors.

Please follow us on our social media platforms to learn more about DV, events to bring awareness, and ultimately an end to the violence.

Get Involved to Empower Survivors This

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Awareness Month

MCCA wraps two buses

MCCA is excited to share that in honor of DVAM and our rebranding, we wrapped two buses. The route they take changes daily and we are encouraging people to tag our social media pages and share where they have seen the buses.

Connect Transit does have a [live tracker](#) for bus routes and often updates the routes with the bus numbers.

The buses are to run through the month of October and into November.



Our DVAM bus hit the streets in late September and features the background from the CDV page on our website, both the MCCA and CDV logos, as well as our 24-hour hotline number, 309-827-7070, prominently featured.

Look for bus 1801.



Our second bus features all three lines of business, some elements from our rebranding including the MCCA gradient color bar, and both the banner pictures from our FOC page as well as our Mayors Manor pages, and again, the 24-hour CDV hotline.

Look for bus 1802.

Since 2016, NeighborWorks® America's Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Initiative has worked to create an equitable and inclusive workplace, a diverse workforce, and innovative community engagement opportunities.

As a chartered member of NeighborWorks® America, MCCA has adopted, and embraced, their REDI initiative.

The goal is to foster an organizational culture and climate that identifies, addresses and resolves inequities. We seek to build a culture around equity and inclusion, ensuring that diverse voices and perspectives are present, acknowledged and valued to generate strategies and solutions that guide our work. The following pillars advance our REDI efforts:

Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI)

Advancing Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) is a corporate priority of NeighborWorks America. In order to drive operational excellence and stewardship, REDI is used as a decisional framework to assess equity and inclusion within the organization and across our network. Our goal is to foster an organizational culture and climate that identifies, addresses and resolves inequities.



- **Workplace Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Creating an equitable and inclusive environment for people who may be different from each other and who do not all come from the same background. The differences may be (but are not limited to) those of national origin, physical appearance, religion, education, age, gender, or sexual orientation.
- **Workforce Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Differences in employee characteristics including ethnicity, race, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, and ability. This process involves purposely seeking a diverse workforce, which enhances the creativity and productivity of each NeighborWorks division.
- **Community Engagement:** Evaluating opportunities that span NeighborWorks and the current market in order to be innovative and forward-thinking with our network (e.g., evaluation of existing and future network organizations, marketing, branding, best practices).

September Events

We were happy to host a table at ISU's Part Time Job Fair as well as to work with Heartland Community College at their Social Services Fair.

You might have also seen us as we debuted our newly branded community presentation at both First and Second Presbyterian. We also made an appearance at the Women to Women Housing Panel.

Our Housing Stability Navigator has also been busy making connections all around Bloomington-Normal!

Our CDV program had a great time spreading awareness at the Bistro on October 6, special shoutout to Mamma for her support!

Check out pictures on our [Facebook Page](#).



Educate, Equip, and Empower

Upcoming Workshops

Let the team at Mid Central Community Action help you gain confidence through our **workshops**! Whether you have an upcoming job interview, need to form good financial habits, or want to learn tips to best prepare yourself prior to purchasing a home, Mid Central Community Action has you covered! Join us for an upcoming workshop and feel confident in your next steps in life!

Click on each picture for a PDF view.

LISC Financial Opportunity Center® Workshops

- October 2** Money Matters 5:30pm - 7pm
Participants can expect to discuss the importance of a monthly budget, as well as, how to create a budget based on income, debt, and expenses. Participants will also learn what credit is, why credit is important, how credit is built and re-built, and what makes up a credit score.
- October 10** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 9:30am - 11am
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.
- October 11** Career Exploration 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect to discover their professional interests and explore various career paths. They will complete an interest profiler, explore 2-3 career paths, and tap into personal and professional values through a values activity.
- October 18** Resumes and Cover Letters 2pm-3:30pm
Customers can expect to review and build their history to create a modern resume. Customers will also learn how to obtain the attention of hiring managers, as well as learn how to effectively market their skills.
- October 25** Interview Readiness 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect our Employment Coach to walk them through a skills assessment to review where their strengths and skills are, practice common interview questions, assist with mock interviews, and discuss Dress for Success.
- October 24** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step Journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.

LISC Financial Opportunity Center® Workshops

- November 6** Money Matters 5:30pm - 7pm
Participants can expect to discuss the importance of a monthly budget, as well as, how to create a budget based on income, debt, and expenses. Participants will also learn what credit is, why credit is important, how credit is built and re-built, and what makes up a credit score.
- November 8** Career Exploration 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect to discover their professional interests and explore various career paths. They will complete an interest profiler, explore 2-3 career paths, and tap into personal and professional values through a values activity.
- November 13** Working With A Lender 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to learn the mortgage loan application process, lender terminology, and what documents to submit to a loan officer. They will also gain an understanding of how income, credit, and ratios qualify a person for a mortgage loan.
- November 14** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 9:30am - 11am
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step Journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.
- November 15** Resumes and Cover Letters 2pm-3:30pm
Customers can expect to review and build their history to create a modern resume. Customers will also learn how to obtain the attention of hiring managers, as well as learn how to effectively market their skills.
- November 20** Working With A Realtor 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to learn what a realtor's responsibilities are when representing someone through the home buying process. They will also learn negotiation tools, the difference between a purchase agreement and a sales contract, as well as how to inform a realtor on what they are looking for in a property.
- November 21** Interview Readiness 2pm - 3:30pm
Customers can expect our Employment Coach to walk them through a skills assessment to review where their strengths and skills are, practice common interview questions, assist with mock interviews, and discuss Dress for Success.
- November 27** Community Involvement 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Customers can expect to learn about opportunities available in their communities for neighborhood involvement, as well as what to expect at a closing.
- November 28** Financial Opportunity Center™ Orientation 5:30pm - 7pm
Customers can expect to begin their Next Step Journey with a group orientation facilitated by all Coaches (Employment, Financial, and Housing). An introduction to Bundled Services and long-term coaching are shared at the orientation, along with an interactive money management activity.

Call for Volunteers

Do you have some extra time and want to give back? Mid Central Community Action would love your help:

- Basic Data Entry and Returning Calls
- Basic Cleaning Duties
- Basic Maintenance Duties

Please visit our [Volunteer page](#) to see what would be a good fit!

MCCA Committee Openings

Joining a committee allows you to actively contribute to our mission and make a tangible difference in the community. Committees provide a platform for individuals to collaborate, share ideas, and participate in decision-making processes that shape our programs and initiatives.

Currently we have openings on the Planning and Evaluation Committee. This committee has the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Work with the Executive Director and designated staff to develop Agency programs and services,
2. Advise the Board on strategic organizational matters of the Agency
3. Review, evaluate, and monitor all programs through consultation with the Executive Director and designated staff to ensure contract compliance, and
4. Conduct all program evaluations and reviews as may be required by funding sources.

Please [email us](#) if you are interested in knowing more.

Mid Central Community Action
Bloomington Office: 309-829-0691
Pontiac Office: 309-834-9283

[Send Us A Message](#)

Keep in Touch!



Mid Central Community Action | 1301 W. Washington St., Bloomington, IL 61704

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